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Public Forum

STATINTL

JFK Rapped for Blocking Exiles

To the Editor:

In the Eagle I have read about President Kennedy's steady output of smears of the Cuban refugees and their raids on the Cuban mainland. The American government is protecting Castro from commando raids originating from any place in the Caribbean. Why?

To find the answer led us go back to the time of the Cuban blockade. The blockade was hailed all over the United States as a victory for the free world, but was it? Jose Norman, a leader of the Cuban exiles whose reports concerning the conditions inside Cuba have proved far

more accurate than the CIA's findings, has stated that in August of 1962, when most of the press said there were only 3,500 technicians in Cuba, there were actually 11 missile bases, 6 more near completion, 15 air bases, 14 civil airports which could be converted to military purposes, 6 naval bases some with submarines, 33 camps of Russians, Czechs, Algerians and Chinese, 26,000 troops, 169 airplanes, 350 artillery pieces, 575,000 light arms, 33 war ships, 20-40 thousand local militia, and 80 missiles, many hidden in caves. Quite a defensive build-up, eh?

OUT OF ALL this President Kennedy only wanted the missiles removed. He took Khrushchev's word that they had been removed. What proof did he have that the missiles had been removed outside of the word of a man who Kennedy said had lied to him before? Not much.

He had some photographs which showed the crates that the missiles were supposed to be in and in a few cases some photos that showed metal objects with the dimensions of the missiles, yet not one Russian ship was boarded and checked to see if they really had the missiles and not just mock-ups. What is more, only 40 of the 80 or more missiles were reported to have left the

island. So even if the ships did carry missiles there are still at least 40 hidden in caves on Cuba. None of the other equipment, except for some aircraft, were supposed to have been moved.

IN RETURN Khrushchev got a promise to remove U.S. missiles from Turkey. (this has been done on the grounds that they are outdated although Khrushchev must have thought them a threat to have wanted them removed) and a pledge not to invade Cuba. Kennedy is making good his no invasion pledge by preventing anyone from attacking Cuba, even the refugees who want their homeland to be free.

This then explains the great victory we have achieved. If we make many more such victories over the Communists then we may as well plan to live in a Communist America within a few years.

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